

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Poland REPORT

TOPIC 1. Polish Labor Bn No 1635 in Jaworzno

2. KBW Unit in Neustadt and Army Unit in Bochnia

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED 27 October 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

DATE RETURNED

REFERENCES

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1. Prior to 7 March 1954, a labor battalion was located in a cantonment about 800 meters southeast of the Jaworzno (Q 51/Y 76) railroad station and east of the railroad line to Chrzanow (Q 51/Y 85). It was subordinate to a headquarters in Katowice (Q 51/Y 57) which was commanded by a colonel. this headquarters was controlled by an agency stationed at Krakow (Q 51/Z 24). Other labor battalions were known to be in Oswiecim (Q 51/Y 74) and Sosnowiec (Q 51/Y 67). The battalion stationed at Oswiecim battalion was scheduled to be assigned to a Polish tank unit of the Prieg (P 51/R 89) station in the event of war.

2. Battalion whose total strength slightly exceeded 1,000 was organized into five companies and one headquarters. Four of these companies were merely labor companies. The 5th Co provided a guard platoon and workers who worked in the pit. The companies were organized into four platoons each of which had four squads. Due to the assignment of recruits, the strength of the battalion was temporarily raised in October and November, and April of every year. The recruits were organized into two additional training companies from which they were finally reassigned to the five normally existing companies of the battalion after a four weeks' training course and the discharge of the reservists. Since the fall of 1953, soldiers of the 1928 through 1933 classes who came from all parts of Poland had belonged to the battalion. The Germans among the soldiers were estimated to be about 25 percent.

The labor soldiers wore khaki Polish Army uniforms without patches, and epaulettes of the same color. Soldiers on duty and at work wore the four-cornered garrison cap (nogatiwka), while soldiers on leave wore round visor-type service caps and red cap bands. Every soldier had one uniform and, in winter, two fabric overcoats. The men received no steel helmets, gas masks, field bags, mess kits, etc.

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It had formerly been occupied by a WOP (Border Guard) unit which had moved some time ago. The numerous submachine guns with which the soldiers of the KBW (Internal Security) unit were equipped were conspicuous. In March 1954, soldiers who wore khaki uniforms and blue service color were still observed at the station. In the summer of 1952 and 1953, a tent camp at which KBW (Internal Security) units held their summer exercises was observed about 1 kilometer south of the perimeter of the city. 2

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8. The recruiting office (WKR) which was responsible for the district of Neustadt was located in Neisse (P 51/H 75).

1. [ ] Comment. The present information agrees with several previous reports. [ ] 20 labor battalions are located in the Upper Silesian industrial area.

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2. [ ] Comment. The present information confirms a previous report. [ ] The 15th KBW (Internal Security) Regt is known to be located in Neustadt.

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